

The close-down on the war on drugs continued on the international scene. I do not have time to get into all the statistics tonight, but there is no question that this administration closed down the international programs that were so successful under the Reagan and Bush Administrations, that stopped drugs at their source, that stopped drugs before they came in to the United States and came in to our borders.

What is sad is they perpetuated a myth that the war on drugs has been a failure, and some of their policies, again, closing down the efforts to stop drugs at their source, have resulted in an incredible volume of heroin, cocaine, coming into the United States.

The most dramatic example, of course, is Colombia. For 6 or 7 years now this administration has done everything possible to stop resources, assistance, right up until the last few months, from getting to Colombia, and even the efforts to get equipment, resources, there, surplus materials, equipment authorized by the Congress, has been a bungled effort. That has had some direct impact.

Colombia in 1992-1993 almost produced zero cocaine. There was almost no coca produced in Colombia. There was almost zero, none produced, of heroin. The poppies were almost nonexistent except for floral bouquets when this administration adopted its policy of stopping assistance in aid and drug combatting resources getting to Colombia. Now we are overwhelmed with the sheer volume.

If that did not do enough damage, the policy of this administration is revealed in this Dallas Morning News article that appeared March 13, 2000, about going after drug traffickers. "Federal drug offenders spending less time in prison, study finds."

Now, liberal papers like the New York Times would have you believe that everyone who puffed a joint or was guilty of some minor possession would be behind bars. In fact, recently I have heard that comment after they editorialized and said we have to do away with the harsh Rockefeller laws.

Our subcommittee in fact found that you really have to work hard to get in prison on a drug offense in the State of New York; that in fact 70 percent of the people behind bars, according to the most recent and most extensive study ever taken by judicial officials in New York that was revealed to our committee, are in jail for committing two or more felonies. Of the 30 percent who remain, they have committed at least one felony, and very few of those who were in prison on lesser charges are there because of small possessions of drugs. In fact, most of them that are there on lower charges, the study found, are there because the charge was reduced. It was plea bargained down.

So we have people who have committed in fact multiple felonies and serious offenses behind bars for these offenses. Our prisons and jails in New York, in particular, this study confirms, are not there because of minor drug offenses.

Unfortunately, tonight we do not have time to get into further detail. We will try to do that in subsequent special orders and update the Congress, you, Mr. Speaker, and my colleagues on these issues, to try to separate fact from fiction and shed some light on how we can do a better job in a multifaceted approach to bringing one of the most serious social challenges we have ever faced as a Nation or a Congress under control.

With those comments, unfortunately, my time has expired, and the business of the House has been completed.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. MARKEY (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of family illness.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. SANCHEZ) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. MCKINNEY, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. BUYER) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. BURTON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, June 20.

Mr. BUYER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. NETHERCUTT, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DUNCAN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. METCALF, for 5 minutes, today, June 14, and June 15.

Mr. LAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

By unanimous consent, permission to revise and extend remarks was granted to:

Mr. OBEY and to insert tables and extraneous material on H.R. 4577 in the Committee of the Whole today.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at midnight), the House adjourned until today, Wednesday, June 14, 2000, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

8098. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Almonds Grown in California; Release of the Reserve Established for the 1999-2000 Crop Year [Docket No. FV00-981-1 IFR] received May 3, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

8099. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule—Allocation of Funds Under the Capital Fund; Capital Fund Formula; Amendment [Docket No. FR-4423-C-08] (RIN: 2577-AB87) received May 2, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

8100. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Office of Postsecondary Education, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's final rule—Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (RIN: 1840-AC82) received May 2, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

8101. A letter from the Associate Division Chief, Accounting Policy Division, Common Carrier Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Truth-in-Billing Format [FCC 00-111; CC Docket No. 98-170] received May 2, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

8102. A letter from the Secretary, Bureau of Consumer Protection, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Rule Concerning Disclosures Regarding Energy Consumption and Water Use of Certain Home Appliances and Other Products Required Under the Energy Policy and Conservation Act ("Appliance Labeling Rule")—received May 3, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

8103. A letter from the Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—List of Approved Spent Fuel Storage Casks: Holtec HI-STORM 100 Addition (RIN: 3150-AG-31) received May 2, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

8104. A letter from the Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—List of Approved Spent Fuel Storage Casks: PSNA VSC-24 Revision (RIN: 3150-AG36) received May 2, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

8105. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—List of Approved Spent Fuel Storage Casks: TN-68 Addition (RIN: 3150-AG30) received May 2, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

8106. A letter from the Chairman, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the quarterly report on the denial of safeguards information, pursuant to Section 147 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954; to the Committee on Commerce.